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## **Sen. Laura Toy announces \$1 million grant for Cooper school site**

**LANSING** – The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality today authorized a \$1 million Clean Michigan Initiative grant for redevelopment of the former Cooper school site, announced state Sen. Laura M. Toy, 6th District.

“Since it was discovered that initial estimates for clean-up costs were low, we have been working very diligently to secure this additional state funding for the project,” Sen. Toy said. “This award from the DEQ will ensure that there are no more delays in redeveloping the Cooper site.”

In the fall of 2004, Livonia Public Schools (LPS) was awarded a \$1.4 million grant and another \$1 million in funding through a low-cost loan program to prepare the Cooper school site for redevelopment.

When work began initial estimates for the clean-up increased substantially, prompting the district to seek out additional funding from the state.

Sen. Toy worked closely with the district and with the city of Westland to secure both the original awards as well as the additional \$1 million grant from the DEQ.

“Cleaning and redeveloping the Cooper site is certainly a positive step forward for both our local environment and our local economy,” Sen. Toy said. “I was proud to play my role in making this a reality for Livonia Schools and the city of Westland.”

Cooper Elementary School was shuttered by LPS in 1991 after concerns surfaced that the site, which was formerly a landfill, was contaminated and potentially hazardous to students.

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